

1  
URBAN DISTRICT  
OF  
FEATHERSTONE  
ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1968





FEATHERSTONE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1968.

B Y

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.



Medical Officer's Section,  
Health Department,  
Baghill House,  
Walkergate,  
Pontefract.

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, a Report on the Health and Health Services of Featherstone during the year 1968.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

*John C. C. C.*  
John C. C. C.  
Medical Officer of Health.



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FEATHERSTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL - 1968.

Chairman: County Councillor D. Gray.

Vice-Chairman: Cr. J. H. Livesey.

Cr. J. W. Bettridge.

Cr. Mrs. N. Edgar.

Cr. Mrs. M. L. Fox.

Cr. S. F. Gascoyne.

Cr. G. Holt.

Cr. N. Longbottom.

Cr. F. G. Smith.

Cr. D. Townsend.

Cr. R. Widdowson.

Cr. H. Wright.

Clerk to the Council:

H. Tattersall, A.L.A.A., F.R.Econ.C.

Medical Officer of Health:

John F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

J. F. Ellison, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.



PART ONE.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District:	4,425 Acres.
Population, mid-year, Registrar General's Estimate:	15,250
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1968:	5,177
Rateable Value at end of 1968: £318,371	1967: £312,766
Product of Penny Rate 1968: £1,172	1967: £1,153

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1967.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate:	158 (153)	137 (151)	295 (304)
Illegitimate:	15 (7)	7 (9)	22 (16)
Totals:	<u>173</u> (160)	<u>144</u> (160)	<u>317</u> (320)
Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated population:	20.8 (21.1)		
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated population:	19.7 (20.1)		
<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	6 (1)	2 (-)	8 (1)
Illegitimate:	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
Totals:	<u>7</u> (1)	<u>2</u> (-)	<u>9</u> (1)
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths:	28 (3.1)		
Rate per 1,000 estimated population:	0.59 (0.06)		
<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All Age Groups:	81 (95)	66 (64)	147 (159)
<u>Deaths.</u>			
<u>Infants under one year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate:	1 (3)	1 (4)	2 (7)
Illegitimate:	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Totals:	<u>1</u> (3)	<u>1</u> (4)	<u>2</u> (7)
<u>Deaths.</u>			
<u>Infants under four weeks.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate:	1 (2)	- (2)	1 (4)
Illegitimate:	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Totals:	<u>1</u> (2)	<u>1</u> (2)	<u>1</u> (4)
<u>Maternal Deaths.</u>	NIL	(1)	
<u>Death Rates.</u>			
Crude rate per 1,000 population:	9.6 (10.5)		
Adjusted rate per 1,000 population:	13.6 (14.7)		
All infants per 1,000 live births:	6.3 (21.9)		
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:	6.7 (23.3)		
Maternal Deaths per 1,000 live and stillbirths:	NIL (3.12)		

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table:

TABLE I.

Cause of Death.	M	F	Total
Acillary Dysentery, Amoebiasis	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	2	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	6	1	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	9	7	16
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	-	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	-	2
Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	22	12	34
Other forms of heart disease	-	2	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	11	12	23
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	2	3
Pneumonia	6	11	17
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	1	7
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	3	1	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System	-	1	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
All Other Accidents	4	-	4
All other external causes.	-	1	1
Totals:	81	66	147

The number of deaths registered during the year was 147, a decrease of 12 compared with last year. This yields a death rate of 9.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against a figure of 10.5 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales is 11.9.

The principal causes of deaths as compared with 1967, 1966, 1965 and 1964 are as follows:

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Heart Diseases	39	45	39	52	52
Cancer	35	35	21	26	24
Bronchitis	7	11	12	15	15
Tuberculosis (all forms)	Nil	2	Nil	2	Nil

#### INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality rate for 1968 is 6.3, compared with 21.9 which is the figure for England and Wales.

The following table gives causes of infant deaths during 1968, classified into age groups and months of incidence:

TABLE II.

	Weeks				Months				Under 1 yr.		
	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	M	F	Total
Prematurity.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Haemorrhagic Broncho Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Totals:	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	2

#### SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS AS COMPARED WITH 1968.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate.</u>
1961	19.1	8.9	35.6
1962	19.6	10.1	30.9
1963	19.0	8.2	21.3
1964	19.9	10.0	23.6
1965	20.5	9.9	13.0
1966	21.9	9.3	12.1
1967	21.1	10.5	21.9
1968	20.8	9.6	6.3

COMPARISON OF FEATHERSTONE VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

TABLE III.

	Featherstone Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (provisional figures)
<u>BIRTH RATE</u> (per 1,000 estimated population)				
Crude Rate	20.8	17.5	17.6	16.9
Adjusted Rate	19.7	17.9	17.8	*
<u>DEATH RATE</u> (per 1,000 estimated population)				
All causes. Crude Rate	9.6	12.3	11.6	11.9
Adjusted Rate	13.6	12.9	12.6	*
Infective and Para. Dis. Excl. Tub, but incl. Syphl. and other V.D.	-	*	*	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	0.03	0.03	0.03
Tuberculosis Other	-	0.02	0.01	0.01
Tuberculosis - All forms	-	0.05	0.05	0.04
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	0.46	0.49	0.48	0.59
Cancer - All forms	2.30	2.25	2.14	2.32
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	1.51	1.89	1.76	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2.75	4.64	4.34	*
Respiratory Diseases	1.77	1.74	1.60	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	-	0.09	0.09	0.24
Perinatal Mortality	30.7	25.8	25.0	24.7
Neonatal Mortality	3.2	13.1	12.1	12.4
Infant Mortality	6.3	19.7	18.5	18.3
Stillbirths. (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	27.6	14.4	14.3	14.3

\* Figures not available.

PART TWO.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

TABLE IV.

Disease	Jan/ Mar.	Apl/ June	July/ Sept.	Oct/ Dec.	Totals	Deaths	Number of Cases Admitted to Hospital.
Measles.	2	34	60	1	97	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	1	2	-	2
Meningococcal Meningitis.	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever.	-	1	-	2	3	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
Infective Hepatitis.	-	-	1	1	2	-	-
Totals:	4	36	62	5	107	-	4

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous Persons:-

TABLE V.

Number of Cases in Register	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Total in Register.
	M	F	M	F	
At the commencement of 1968.	61	35	11	16	123
Notified for the first time during 1968.	-	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers.	1	1	-	-	2
Removed from Register.	4	1	-	1	6
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1968.	58	35	11	15	119

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:

TABLE VI.

Entries relating to:	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died.	2	-	-	-	2
Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance to have recovered.	1	-	-	1	2
Persons who have ceased to reside in district.	1	1	-	-	2
Revised diagnosis.	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	4	1	-	1	6

In the following Table, new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of disease.

TABLE VII.

Age.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals:	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.



P A R T III

C O U N T Y C O U N C I L

O F T H E

W E S T R I D I N G O F Y O R K S H I R E

D I V I S I O N 12

Pontefract Municipal Borough  
Featherstone Urban District  
Knottingley Urban District  
Osgoldcross Rural District

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

D I V I S I O N A L M E D I C A L O F F I C I E R

1968

B Y

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

(a)



Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1968

Divisional Medical Officer.

J. F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Departmental Medical Officer  
and School Medical Officer

Vacancy

School Medical Officer (Part-time)

J. Simons, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff

Ophthalmologist

K. K. Prasher, M.B., B.S., D.O.

Orthopaedic Surgeon

R. W. L. Calderwood, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino Laryngologist

K. M. Mayall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Divisional Nursing Officer.

Mrs. M. Craig

Health Visitors and School Nurses

Mrs. P. M. Brice

Mrs. B. Clarke

Miss L. O. I. Day

Miss A. Elsley.

Mrs. M. Faulkner

Miss B. N. Kennington

Miss M. Reading.

Mrs. M. P. Sawyer

Miss S. Sharpe

Mrs. E. M. Vipurse

Mrs. M. K. Walsh

Assistant Health Visitor

Mrs. L. Hudson

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

Mrs. E. W. Petch.

Midwives

Mrs. K. Berry  
Miss K. Capper  
Miss E. S. Essex  
Mrs. E. Glover (Relief)  
Miss C. Norton  
Mrs. J. R. Pearson  
Mrs. P. Philip  
Mrs. A. M. Randall  
Mrs. S. Whitehead

Home Nurses

Mrs. S. G. Cousins  
Mrs. S. Eaton  
Mrs. M. L. Etherington  
Mrs. F. Green  
Mrs. P. M. Long  
Mrs. V. McVeigh  
Mrs. A. Pearce  
Mrs. J. M. Pycock  
Mrs. D. Vause

Mental Welfare Officers

Miss M. Horsley.  
Mr. G. F. G. Townend.

Speech Therapist

Mrs. N. Hepworth

Clerical Staff

Mr. W. Carver (Senior Clerk)  
Mr. R. L. Smith (Deputy Senior Clerk)  
Miss K. Duker  
Miss J. M. E. Ellis  
Miss J. M. Gibbons  
Miss J. L. Newman  
Miss M. A. Rooke  
Miss A. Stainton  
Mrs. E. M. Slack (Part-time)  
Miss S. E. Wigham  
Mrs. M. H. Carver (Part-time)  
Mrs. P. Ramsdale (Part-time)  
Mrs. S. Smith (Part-time)

## INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

The number of live births registered in the divisional area during 1968 was 1299 a decrease of 100 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE 18.0 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 20.2 in the previous year. It was higher than the West Riding Administrative County rate of 17.6 and the England and Wales birth rate of 16.9

### Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the divisional area after correction for transfers were 655 an increase of 11 compared with 1967.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The West Riding Administrative area was 11.6 and England and Wales, 11.9

### Infant Mortality.

In 1968 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 13, a decrease of 18 compared with 1967. The Infant Mortality was 10.2 as against 22.2 in the previous year.

### Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the divisional area during the year.

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

### Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1274 notified live births, 373 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 21 of these cases.

### Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the division:-

Death of mother	-
Death of child	-
Still Births	1
Liability to be source of infection	-

### Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by Midwives during 1968 numbered 11, all of these being domiciliary.

### Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with a Trilene Analgesia Machine.

Pethidine only was given in 74 cases. Trilene was administered in 37 cases and with Pethidine in 132 cases.

### Ante-natal Clinics.

There were two Ante-natal Clinics in the Division which were held at Pontefract and Knottingley. The ante-natal session at Knottingley was discontinued from the 1st July, 1968. During the year 137 patients attended. The total number of attendances was 539. 26 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

### Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at Pontefract and Featherstone clinics.

These have continued to be fairly well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 501.

### Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

During the year accommodation was provided for all applicants having their first baby, and for all those with home conditions unsuitable for a domiciliary confinement. Of the remaining applicants a high proportion were allotted beds.

### Cervical Cytology.

A clinic is held each week at the Central Clinic, Trinity Street, Pontefract. Facilities for this examination are now available to all married women.

During 1968 39 sessions were held and 532 women examined.

### CHILD WELFARE.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley. A mobile caravan type clinic visits the Parishes of Whitley Bridge, Womersley, Eggborough, Brotherton, Kellington, Heck, Hensall, Monk Fryston and Fairburn in the Osgoldcross Rural District, at fortnightly intervals.

The new Health Centre at Hazel Road, Knottingley was opened in July, 1968 and the Chapel Street clinic premises were closed.

During 1968 2752 children attended at clinics and they made 18429 attendances.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost prices to all women attending at the Clinics:-

Ostermilk No. 2	Farex.
Trufood, humanised.	Robinson's Groats.
Cow and Gate, full cream.	Robinson's Triple Pack.
Minadex.	Robrex.
Trufood Cereal.	Robsoup.
Adexalin.	Rose Hip Syrup.
Scotts Twin Pack.	

The annual turnover of baby food, etc., is approximately £6,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

Ascorbic Acid.	Ferrous Rumerate Tablets.
Fersamel Syrup.	Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

### Premature Babies.

During the year 95 babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the division, and 16 were born at home.

### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

#### Medical Inspections.

Hitherto school children have been examined as a matter of routine at the following intervals:-

Entrants	5 years +
Second Age Group	7 years +
Intermediate years	10 years +
Leavers	14 years +

With effect from September 1968 it was decided to retain as routine examinations only the first (Entrants) and the last (Leavers). In the intervening years the parents are asked to complete a Health Questionnaire and only those children thought to require examination are dealt with. This allows the School Medical Officer to give more attention to the children likely to have defects.

The re-examination of children who, at previous periodical or special examination had been found to have defects, was made at each school medical inspection.

During the year, 3699 children received a full medical examination. A further 1046 children who had been found to have defects at previous examinations were also examined.

#### General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination, and 99.64% were classified as satisfactory and only 0.36% as unsatisfactory.

#### Uncleanliness.

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 30049 examinations of children in schools. Of these 312 individual children were found to be infested.

### SPECIAL CLINICS.

#### Ophthalmic Clinics.

Dr. K.K. Prasher holds a weekly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1429 children were examined. Of these, 528 were prescribed glasses.

#### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract for children from this division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 24 sessions and saw 118 children. In all, the children made 313 attendances.

### Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 9 sessions were held. 67 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 75.

### Child Guidance Treatment.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. Dr. K. Maxwell held consultant sessions.

Mr. P. Atkinson, Psychologist and Mrs. P.Y. Harris, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the clinic.

### Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist, held clinics on two half-days each week at Pontefract Central Clinic. In addition she has one session each week at the Castle Day E.S.N. School and at the Knottingley Clinic. During the year 184 sessions were held and 104 children were treated.

### Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

### Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training Colleges.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to Training Colleges for the purpose of satisfying the College authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 83 candidates were examined and where necessary X-Ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession 17 examinations were made.

### B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered for the first time to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

In addition, vaccination is offered each year to those pupils over the age of 13 years, who have previously been absent or whose parents have not consented. Each child has, therefore, a continuing opportunity to be vaccinated before leaving school.

<u>No. of consent forms issued.</u>	<u>No. of affirmative consent forms received.</u>	<u>Mantoux Test.</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative.</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive.</u>
839	482	415	377	38

Not  
Ascertained.

B.C.G.  
Vaccination.

### HEALTH VISITING.

During the year the following people were visited:-

No. of children under one year of age	1215
No. of children aged one year & under 2 years	1208
No. of children aged 2 years & under 5 years	2820
Persons aged 65 or over (excluding domestic help service visits)	1352
Total number of cases visited	9166

### HOME NURSING.

During the year 25,211 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 21624 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.
(1) Medical	902	19386
(2) Surgical	380	5021
(3) Infectious Diseases	67	129
(4) Tuberculosis	5	195
(5) Maternal Complications	35	280
(6) Other	20	200
TOTALS:-	1409	25211
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	639	17380
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	162	512
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	233	17679

### CHIROPODY SERVICE

A free chiropody service is provided for the following categories of patient:

- (a) Expectant Mothers.
- (b) Persons of Pensionable age. (i.e. Males over 65,  
Females over 60.)
- (c) Handicapped Persons.

Clinics are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics. Patients who are unable, on health grounds, to attend the clinics, are treated in their homes.

In 1968 680 patients were treated at the Clinics, and made 2033 attendances. 431 patients were treated at home and 1755 treatments given.

### HOME HELP SERVICE

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

(a) Ill	(d) Expectant Mother
(b) Lying-in.	(e) Mental Defective
(c) Aged.	(f) A child not over compulsory school age.

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division at 31st December, 1968 was 47.

### Authorised Divisional Establishment

(i)	Basic	47
(ii)	From Reserve	1.25
(iii)	Total	48.25

### No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1968

(i)	Whole-time	-
(ii)	Part-time	70
(iii)	Total	70

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December,  
1968

	<u>No. of cases</u>	<u>Hours Employed</u>
<u>Under 65</u>		
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	17	593
(ii) Chronic Sick and Tuberculous	92	3,118
(iii) Others	15	312
<u>Over 65</u>	<u>583</u>	<u>97,499</u>
	707	101,522
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time - 48.81

#### MENTAL HEALTH

Much good work in this field was carried out during the year by the two Mental Welfare Officers working in the Division.

#### MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF

In 1968, 49 examinations were made of staff in connection with superannuation.

#### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION IN SCHOOLS

In 1962 the school immunisation programme was extended to include protection against Tetanus. There has been growing emphasis for this in recent years and it can now be administered in a combined form with Diphtheria.

By the end of 1968 out of a school population of 12,782 children, 10,124 had received protection against Diphtheria representing 79.20% of the population, whilst in the six years that Tetanus protection has been available, 9,937 (77.74%) children have been immunised against Tetanus.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis was also introduced into the school programme in 1964 in order to improve the immunity rate. 10,301 school children are now protected against this disease, representing 80.58% of the school population.

The ready co-operation of the headteachers is very much appreciated in these schemes, the success of which is shown in the high immunity rates achieved amongst school children.

#### VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

During 1968, 382 primary vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out.

THE CHILD NEGLECTED IN ITS OWN HOME

Meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee for the care of the child neglected in its own home were held.

These meetings attended by representatives of the Health, Welfare, Education and Children's Departments of the County Council, the Health and Housing Departments of the County District Councils, together with the Probation Officer, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector and National Assistance Board Officer, were helpful in providing an interchange of information and a co-ordinated approach to the individual case.

T H E  
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L  
O F  
F E A T H E R S T O N E

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

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O F T H E  
C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R  
F O R T H E Y E A R  
1 9 6 8

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B Y

J. P. ELLISON, C.R.S.H., I.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
FEATHERSTONE.



URBAN DISTRICT OF FEATHERSTONE.

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
1968.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my report for the year 1968.

My apologies are again offered for the long delay in its preparation.

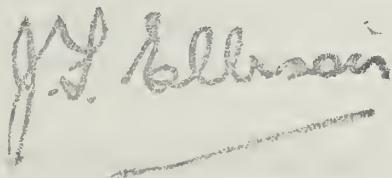
Very little information other than that required to be supplied is included, so that unfortunately a true picture of the full activities of the department is not given.

The appointment of a clerical assistant for housing did not have the full effect hoped for, as a change in the demand for houses resulted in even more time being devoted by all members of the department to housing matters, again to the detriment of routine public health duties.

I wish to thank my own staff and that of the Medical Officer of Health for their assistance and co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,



Chief Public Health Inspector.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

### WATER SUPPLY.

All dwellings in the district are connected to the mains water supply which is obtained from the Wakefield and District Water Board. In general, complaints are made direct to the responsible Officers of the Board so that this Department's knowledge of alleged inadequacy is usually limited to those cases where private service pipes are at fault.

Weekly chemical and bacteriological samples are taken by the Board's Chemist, of the raw water and of water entering the supply after final treatment. Immediate check samples are taken of any proving unsatisfactory, the chlorine dosage is increased and the matter fully investigated. Any new mains are cleared by the Chemist before being brought into use.

As previously reported, the water at source is more acid than your original supply and to obtain a stable p.H. value, the final level is maintained at 9.

The fluoride content continued to be negligible, never exceeding 0.1 p.p.m.

### SWIMMING BATHS.

The swimming bath at St. Wilfrid's R.C. High School is in use throughout the school year, whilst the Lister Baths open from April to September.

There is one pool at the school and two, one large and one small, at the Lister Baths. The water is drawn initially from the public mains and is maintained in satisfactory condition in both cases by fully automatic treatment plant, the water at the Lister Baths being changed every three hours and at the school every six hours.

Chlorine content and p.H. value are checked three times daily by the respective responsible officers.

The total number of bacteriological samples taken was 154 of which 142 were satisfactory. In addition 79 samples were taken as Laboratory checks on p.H. value and chlorine content.

During routine sampling on the 13th March 1968, it was found that due to an error, the school pool had received a heavy overdose of chlorine and as a safety measure swimming was discontinued for the rest of the week. After two days a further test was made and although the chlorine content had reduced, it was still too high. However, by Monday of the following week, conditions were normal and the baths re-opened.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND DRAINAGE.

During 1968 53 additional water closets were provided for existing dwellings by improvements. In some cases this would eliminate the existing external water closets, but accurate figures of this are not available. 93 new dwellings were constructed with water closets.

At the end of the year there were:-

4 houses with Waste Water Closets  
5 houses with Chemical Closets  
3 houses with Privy Closets  
5034 houses with Water Closets.

None of the planned improvement works were carried out at either Sewage Works or to the sewers.



Continued house building, particularly the Ackton Hall Site draining to Old Snydale, further aggravated the situation, in that during periods of heavy rain, flooding occurred.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

One home isolation case of Scarlet Fever and one of Sonnei Dysentery were investigated during the year.

Following newspaper reports that the source of an infectious disease had been traced to terrapins, enquiries were made at all schools in the district but only one was found to have terrapins. Samples of the water in the tank were found to be free from pathogenic organisms.

#### INSECT INFESTATIONS.

Although the occasional cases of bed bug infestation are still found, these are never of a major nature. Instead complaints now usually relate to cockroaches, flies, wasps, bees and other flying insects.

All complaints receive attention and unusual insects identified.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

During the year, one caravan was licenced for a temporary period of one year whilst the occupier built a bungalow. Two other caravans are occupied with Planning permission but are exempt from the provisions of the Act.

Again a good deal of time was spent following up complaints involving itinerants moving into the district, involving in the main two sites. Until there are sufficient suitably supervised sites throughout the country the problem will never be properly solved.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

The rodent control service continued to function efficiently.

In view of previous record of rat-free sewers, a sewer treatment during 1968 was not considered necessary by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

All other Council property receives constant attention so that infestations are kept to a minimum.

The table over sets out the incidence of infestations and control measures taken for the 12 months 1st January to 31st December 1968.



PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1. Number of properties in district	5565	47
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	709	-
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	91	-
(ii) Mice	91	-
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	7	-
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	7	-
(ii) Mice	-	-

HOUSING.

At the 31st December 1968 there were 344 applicants for houses and 223 for bungalows, representing an increase of 14 on the 1967 housing list and 6 on the bungalow list.

During the year 49 new 3 bedroomed Council houses were completed.

In all 235 new tenancies were created during 1968 excluding those where a simple change of name in the rent book was effected.

By the end of the year the remaining 104 houses covered by the Featherstone U.D.C. (Loscoc Nos. 1 and 2) Clearance Orders were demolished.

In June 1968 Duke Street was declared a Clearance Area, but no Order was made as it was found possible to carry out the necessary action by agreement with the owner.

A copy of the housing statistics for 1968 follows:-

1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas			
(1) Unfit for human habitation	104	12	4
(2) Included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(3) On land acquired under Sec.43 (2), Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957	4	19	5
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-
Dwellings previously reported closed	2	-	-



2. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED.

	Number	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(8) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957 and Sec. 26 Housing Act, 1961	7	3	1
(9) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

3. NEW DWELLINGS.

Number of new dwellings completed during the year:-

(a) By the Local Authority.....49  
 (b) By Private Enterprise.....44

4. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by Local Authority	45	-
(12) After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts	27	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(13) Under Section 24/27 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

5. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957).

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
Position at end of year		
(14) Retained for temporary accommodation (a) Under Section 48	-	-
(b) Under Section 17 (2)	-	-
(c) Under Section 46	-	-
(15) Licensed for temporary accommodation under Section 34 or 53	-	-

6. PURCHASES OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT.

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in col.(1) (2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year.	-	-



7. NO. OF FAMILIES REHOUSED DURING THE YEAR INTO COUNCIL OWNED DWELLINGS.

(a) Clearance Areas, etc..... 10  
(b) Overcrowding..... 10

8. RENT ACT, 1957.

(a) No. of Certificates of Disrepair granted..... None  
(b) No. of Undertakings to execute repairs given by owners to the Local Authority..... None  
(c) No. of Certificates of Disrepair cancelled..... None

9. OVERCROWDING.

The 10 cases referred to above were statutory cases, 3 families being in lodgings.

10. GRANTS FOR CONVERSION OR IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

	Formal Applications received during the year	Applications approved during the year		No. of dwellings completed during the year
		Number of Dwellings	Number of Dwellings	
(a) Conversions (the number of dwellings is the no. resulting from completion of the work)	-	-	-	-
(b) Improvements	97	97	61	

11. DETAILS OF ADVANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING OR CONSTRUCTING HOUSES.

Number made..... 94



## FOOD INSPECTION.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are no slaughterhouses in the district. Meat inspection is therefore normally restricted to that found in butchers shops. Following the emergency slaughter of a sow at the farm the carcase was inspected and found to be fit for human consumption.

### FOOD HAWKERS.

Twenty registered mobile shops serve the district. All are inspected before registration.

### FOOD PREMISES.

Number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

(a) Ice-cream

Manufacture and sale	2
Retailers	64

(b) Sausages, Potted or Preserved Food 8

### MILK SUPPLIES - BRUCELLA ABORTUS.

Number of samples of raw milk taken NIL

### THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

### FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960.

Food premises according to trade at end of the year.

Class of Premises	Man. or Prep.	Sale	Total	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960		
				No. complying with Reg. 16	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19
General Grocery		53	53	53	53	53
Bread and Confectionery	5	1	6	6	6	6
Sugar Confectionery		8	8	8	8	8
Greengrocer, fish and poultry		6	6	6	6	6
Butcher and meat preparation	8	11	19	19	19	19
Chemists		3	3	3	3	3
Fish Frying	12		12	12	12	12
Public Houses and Clubs		21	21	21	21	21
Cafes, snack bars and canteens	10		10	10	10	10
Beer and mineral water bottling	1		1	1	1	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	36	103	139	139	139	139



## POULTRY INSPECTION.

There were no poultry processing premises operating in the district during the year.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The new vehicle ordered in December 1967 was delivered in July 1968 and the old side loader was scrapped.

The collection service was carried out by two full time vehicles, the second-hand machine being retained as a spare and for collection of salvage from shops.

The 'task' system of collection was continued successfully, complaints in the main again being about spillage and missed bins.

Disposal was again by tipping on the one site where low lying farm land is being reclaimed.

### CESSPOOL AND GULLY EMPTYING.

The houses served by cesspools are mainly concentrated in two areas, namely Ackton Wood Pastures and part of Ackworth Road, Purston, with a few others in isolated parts of the district. All the cesspools are emptied regularly by the cesspool/gully machine, which is also used for street gully cleansing on the Council's roads.

This machine proves extremely useful in dealing with serious drain or sewer stoppages and on occasions when flooding takes place. It is also used as a snowplough.

## SMOKE CONTROL.

### DOMESTIC.

The installation of appliances capable of burning solid smokeless fuels of the types which were available continued in new and improved dwellings.

The remaining 49 of the 54 houses to Parker Morris Standards were completed at Ackton by the end of 1968. These are all fitted with solid fuel central heating systems but as no restriction on the burning of raw coal is imposed, atmospheric pollution continues.

There are 123 Council owned dwellings - flats, bungalows and Warden's accommodation - which are smokeless by virtue of solid fuel district heating or electric underfloor systems and although this is a contribution towards clean air, it is a pitifully small one and any benefits are soon "cancelled out" by the surrounding smoky domestic chimneys. No smoke control orders have been made, neither are any premises controlled by tenancy conditions.

## INDUSTRIAL.

The larger kiln at Ackton Hall Brickworks was converted to automatic firing, the smaller one and Snydale Brickworks still being hand-fired. All are coal burning.

The scrap cable recovery plant has an oil-fired purpose built furnace and is under the control of H.M. Alkaline Inspectorate. All other industrial plant is either automatically coal, oil or gas-fired or electrified.



FACTORIES

I give below the particulars required by the Ministry of Labour under the Factories Act, 1961 Section 153 (1).

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecute (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	1	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	39	45	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .....	19	72	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found - (If defects are discovered at the premises on **two**, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred			
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of Cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)	-	-	-	-	-	
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	



PART V111 OF THE ACT  
OUTWORK  
(SECTIONS 133 & 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices Served	Prosecu- tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
ALL LISTED WORKS	-	-	NIL	-	-	-



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

Prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report to the Minister of Labour by local authorities and the London County Council under section 60.

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Period covered 1st January - 31st Dec. 1968.

Class of premises. (1)	Number of premises registered during the year. (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year. (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year. (4)
Offices	1	13	4
Retail Shops	2	49	49
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	11	11
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Totals	5	73	64

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

107

TABLE C- ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workpeople (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	34
Retail shops	129
Wholesale departments, warehouses	-
Catering establishments open to the public	47
Canteens	2
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	212
Total Males	58
Total Females	154



## TABLE D = EXCEPTIONS



TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS

M/c. Line No.	Class of premises	During the year					
		No. of exemptions current at end of year	No. of exemptions	No. of applications	No. of applications appealed to Court against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the withdrawl of an exemption		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	No. made (8)	No. allowed (9)
Part IV - Washing Facilities (Soc. 10(1))							
31. Offices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Retail shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33. Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34. Catering establishments open to public, canteens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35. Fuel storage depots	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE E - Prosecutions

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in the year.

Section of act or title of Regulation or Order	No. of persons or companies prosecuted	No. of informations laid	No. of informations leading to a conviction
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-

No. of persons or companies prosecuted

NONE

No. of complaints (or summary applications)  
made under section 22

NONE

No. of interim orders granted

NONE

TABLE F - Inspectors

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the act ...	2
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the act ...	.....
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the act ...	none





